Preliminary Amendment
Docket No. A0856

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1   1.   (currently amended): [[A]] An automated method for selling
2 information to a ~~buyer, the method~~ buying system, comprising:
3   relating information to an event that has not yet occurred and storing the
4 information in electronic form;
5   offering the information for online sale through a selling system;
6   receiving from a buying system an offer ~~from a buyer for information~~
7 ~~wherein the offer~~ for the information that includes ~~at least one~~ a contingency that
8 ~~provides~~ specifies an uncertainty of [[an]] the event ~~related to the information~~
9 occurring;
10   specifying a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty
11 and thereby satisfy the contingency;
12   providing the information and the condition from ~~a seller in response to~~
13 ~~the offer, the information including at least one condition about the at least one~~
14 ~~contingency, wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the~~
15 ~~uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and~~
16 ~~will trigger at least part of a payment from the buyer, and~~ the selling system,
17 wherein acceptance of the ~~at least one~~ condition forms a ~~contract and the at least~~
18 ~~one condition is unsatisfied when the information is provided; and~~ contract;
19   triggering at least part of a payment from the buying system upon
20 satisfaction of the condition; and
21   receiving ~~the at least part of~~ the payment upon the ~~satisfaction of the at~~
22 ~~least one condition after the information has been provided to the buyer and the~~
23 ~~buyer has subsequently~~ buying system having determined that the ~~at least one~~
24 satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty ~~of the event occurring to~~
25 ~~satisfy~~ and thereby satisfied the ~~at least one~~ contingency.

- 2 -

1   2.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further

2 comprising receiving a base payment as ~~the at least part of~~ the payment when the

3 information has been provided to the ~~buyer~~ <u>buying system</u>.

1   3.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further

2 comprising adjusting an amount for ~~the at least part of~~ the payment based on a

3 <u>predicted</u> probability that the condition for the contingency will occur.

1   4.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 3, further

2 comprising:

3   selecting ~~an announced~~ <u>the predicted</u> probability for the condition to

4 resolve the uncertainty to <u>thereby</u> satisfy the contingency; and

5   determining the amount for ~~the at least part of~~ the payment based on a

6 function which uses the ~~announced~~ <u>predicted</u> probability for the condition for the

7 contingency occurring.

1   5.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein

2 the amount of the ~~at least part of~~ the payment is maximized when the ~~announced~~

3 <u>predicted</u> probability for the condition occurring is ~~substantially the same as~~ <u>equal</u>

4 <u>to</u> a true probability for the condition occurring.

1   6.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further

2 comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to <u>thereby</u> satisfy the

3 contingency in the received offer.

1   7.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 6, further

2 comprising:

3   sending a counteroffer to the ~~buyer~~ <u>buying system</u> based on the offer, the

4 counteroffer providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to <u>thereby</u>

5 satisfy the contingency to the ~~buyer;~~ <u>buying system;</u> and

-3-

6   determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the

7   ~~buyer,~~ buying system, wherein the information is only provided upon the

8   condition set being accepted.

1   Claim 8. (cancelled).

1   Claim 9. (cancelled).

1   10.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein

2   one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1   11.   (currently amended): A system for selling information to a ~~buyer,~~

2   ~~the system~~ buying system comprising:

3   an interface operatively coupled to a buying system via a communication

4   link;

5   a memory to store information in electronic form;

6   a processor, comprising:

7   a relation module to relate the information to an event that has not

8   yet occurred;

9   an offer module to offer the information for online sale;

10   a receiving ~~system that receives~~ module to receive an offer ~~from a~~

11   ~~buyer for information wherein the offer~~ from the buying system for the

12   information that includes ~~at least one~~ a contingency that ~~provides~~ specifies an

13   uncertainty of [[an]] the event ~~related to the information~~ occurring;

14   a specification module to specify a condition for the information

15   that will resolve the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency;

16   a ~~source for the information that provides~~ condition module to

17   provide the information ~~in response to the offer, the information including at least~~

18   ~~one condition about the at least one contingency, wherein satisfaction of the at~~

19   ~~least one condition will resolve the uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy at~~

20   ~~least one of the contingencies and will trigger at least part of a payment from the~~

21   ~~buyer,~~ and the condition, wherein acceptance of the ~~at least one~~ condition forms a

- 4 -

22   ~~contract and the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the information is~~

23   ~~provided; and~~ contract;

24   a trigger module to trigger at least part of a payment from the

25   buying system upon satisfaction of the condition; and

26   a contingent payment ~~processing system~~ module to receive ~~that~~

27   ~~receives the at least part of~~ the payment upon the buying system having

28   determined that the satisfaction of the ~~at least one~~ condition ~~after the information~~

29   ~~has been provided to the buyer and the buyer has subsequently determined that~~

30   ~~the at least one condition~~ has resolved the uncertainty and thereby satisfied ~~of the~~

31   ~~event occurring to satisfy~~ the ~~at least one~~ contingency.

1   12.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, further

2   comprising a base payment processing system that receives a base payment as ~~the~~

3   ~~at least part of~~ the payment when the information has been provided.

1   13.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein

2   the contingency payment processing system adjusts an amount for ~~the at least part~~

3   ~~of~~ the payment based on a predicted probability that the condition to resolve the

4   uncertainty to thereby satisfy the contingency occurs.

1   14.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 13, wherein

2   the contingency payment processing system selects ~~an announced~~ the predicted

3   probability to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the condition for the contingency

4   and a function for determining the amount for ~~the at least part of~~ the payment

5   based on the ~~announced~~ predicted probability for the condition for the

6   contingency occurring.

1   15.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 14, wherein

2   the contingency payment processing system maximizes the amount of the

3   contingent payment when the ~~announced~~ predicted probability for the condition

4   occurring is substantially the same as a true probability for the condition

5   occurring.

- 5 -

1   16.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2   comprising a condition setting system which sets the condition to resolve the
3   uncertainty to <u>thereby</u> satisfy the contingency in the received offer.

1   17.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 16, further
2   comprising:
3   a counteroffer system that sends a counteroffer to the ~~buyer~~ <u>buying system</u>
4   based on the offer, the counteroffer provides the condition set to resolve the
5   uncertainty to <u>thereby</u> satisfy the contingency to the ~~buyer;~~ <u>buying system;</u> and
6   purchase decision system that determines if the counteroffer with the
7   condition set is accepted by the ~~buyer;~~ <u>buying system,</u> wherein the information is
8   only provided upon the condition set being accepted.

1   Claim 18. (cancelled).

1   Claim 19. (cancelled).

1   20.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,
2   wherein the receiving system receives the offer and the source of the information
3   provides the information electronically.

1   21.   (currently amended): A computer readable medium having stored
2   instructions for selling contingent information which when executed by a
3   processor, causes the processor to perform:
4   <u>relating information to an event that has not yet occurred and storing the</u>
5   <u>information in electronic form;</u>
6   <u>offering the information for online sale through a selling system;</u>
7   receiving <u>from a buying system</u> an offer ~~from a buyer for information~~
8   ~~wherein the offer~~ <u>for the information that</u> includes ~~at least one~~ <u>a</u> contingency that
9   ~~provides~~ <u>specifies</u> an uncertainty of [[an]] <u>the</u> event ~~related to the information~~
10   occurring;

- 6 -

11   specifying a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty

12   and thereby satisfy the contingency;

13   providing the information and the condition from ~~a seller in response to~~

14 ~~the offer, the information including at least one condition about the at least one~~

15 ~~contingency, wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the~~

16 ~~uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and~~

17 ~~will trigger at least part of a payment from the buyer, and~~ the selling system,

18 wherein acceptance of the ~~at least one~~ condition forms a ~~contract and the at least~~

19 ~~one condition is unsatisfied when the information is provided; and~~ contract;

20   triggering at least part of a payment from the buying system upon

21 satisfaction of the condition; and

22   receiving ~~the at least part of~~ the payment upon the ~~satisfaction of the at~~

23 ~~least one condition after the information has been provided to the buyer and the~~

24 ~~buyer has subsequently~~ buying system having determined that the ~~at least one~~

25 satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty ~~of the event occurring to~~

26 ~~satisfy~~ and thereby satisfied the ~~at least one~~ contingency.

1   22.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 22, further

2 comprising receiving a base payment as ~~the at least part of~~ the payment when the

3 information has been provided to the ~~buyer.~~ buying system.

1   23.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 22, further

2 comprising adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based on ~~an~~

3 ~~announced~~ a predicted probability that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to

4 thereby satisfy the contingency will occur.

1   24.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 23, further

2 comprising:

3   selecting the ~~announced~~ predicted probability for the condition for the

4 contingency; and

-7-

5   determining the amount for ~~the at least part of~~ the payment based on a

6   function which uses the ~~announced~~ predicted probability for the condition for the

7   contingency occurring.

1   25.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 24, wherein

2   the amount of ~~the at least part of~~ the payment is maximized when the ~~announced~~

3   predicted probability for the condition occurring is ~~substantially the same as~~ equal

4   to a true probability for the condition occurring.

1   26.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 21, further

2   comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to thereby satisfy the

3   contingency in the received offer.

1   27.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 26, further

2   comprising:

3   sending a counteroffer to the ~~buyer~~ buying system based on the offer, the

4   counteroffer providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to thereby

5   satisfy the contingency to the ~~buyer;~~ buying system; and

6   determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the

7   ~~buyer;~~ buying system, wherein the information is only provided upon the

8   condition set being accepted.

1   Claim 28. (cancelled).

1   Claim 29. (cancelled).

1   30.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,

2   wherein one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1   31.   (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein

2   the information from the ~~seller~~ selling system in response to the offer is provided

3   without a payment from the ~~buyer.~~ buying system.

- 8 -

1   32.   (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein

2   the information from the ~~seller~~ selling system in response to the offer is provided

3   without a payment from the ~~buyer.~~ buying system.

1   33.   (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 21, wherein

2   the information from the ~~seller~~ selling system in response to the offer is provided

3   without a payment from the ~~buyer.~~ buying system.

1   34.   (new): An automated method for selling information to a buying

2   system, comprising:

3   relating information to an event that has not yet occurred and storing the

4   information in electronic form;

5   offering the information for online sale through a selling system;

6   receiving from a buying system an offer for the information that includes a

7   contingency that specifies an uncertainty of the event occurring;

8   specifying a condition for the information that will resolve the uncertainty

9   and thereby satisfy the contingency;

10   requiring at least part of a payment, comprising:

11   selecting a predicted probability for the condition to resolve the

12   uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency; and

13   determining an amount of the payment based on a function which

14   uses the predicted probability;

15   providing the information and the condition from the selling system,

16   wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;

17   triggering the payment from the buying system upon satisfaction of the

18   condition; and

19   receiving the payment upon the buying system subsequently having

20   determined that the satisfaction of the condition has resolved the uncertainty and

21   thereby satisfied the contingency.

1   35.   (new): The method as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

2   receiving a base payment as the payment upon providing the information

3   to the buying system.

1   36.   (new): The method as set forth in claim 34, wherein the amount of

2   the payment is maximized when the predicted probability is equal to a true

3   probability the condition occurring.

1   37.   (new): The method as set forth in claim 34, wherein the function

2   incorporates risk aversion.

1   38.   (new): A system for selling information to a buying system

2   comprising:

3   an interface operatively coupled to a buying system via a communication

4   link;

5   a memory to store information in electronic form;

6   a processor, comprising:

7   a relation module to relate the information to an event that has not

8   yet occurred;

9   an offer module to offer the information for online sale;

10   a receiving module to receive an offer from the buying system for

11   the information that includes a contingency that specifies an uncertainty of the

12   event occurring;

13   a specification module to specify a condition for the information

14   that will resolve the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency;

15   a condition module to provide the information and the condition,

16   wherein acceptance of the condition forms a contract;

17   a probability module to require at least part of a payment based on

18   a predicted probability, to select the predicted probability for the condition to

19   resolve the uncertainty and thereby satisfy the contingency, and to determine an

20   amount for the payment based on a function which uses the predicted probability;

- 10 -

21   a trigger module to trigger the payment from the buying system

22   upon satisfaction of the condition; and

23   a contingent payment module to receive the payment upon the

24   buying system having determined that the satisfaction of the condition has

25   resolved the uncertainty and thereby satisfied the contingency.

1   39.   (new): The system as set forth in claim 38, wherein the payment

2   includes a base payment upon providing the information to the buying system.

1   40.   (new): The system as set forth in claim 38, wherein the amount of

2   the payment is maximized when the predicted probability is equal to a true

3   probability the condition occurring.

1   41.   (new) : The system as set forth in claim 38, wherein the function

2   incorporates risk aversion.

- 11 -